

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 01062 042231Z

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6049

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 1062

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, ETRD, MX

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO TWO AIDE MEMOIRES

WHICH WERE HANDED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER BY

FONMIN RABASA ON JANUARY 14, 1975

REF: (A) STATE 024303 (B) MEXICO 463

1. AMBASSADOR PLANS HAND TWO AIDE MEMOIRES
(REFTEL A) TO FONSEC RABASA WHEN HE CALLS ON HIM IN
CONNECTION WITH CUBA TRADE POLICY (STATE 023942) AND
OTHER MATTERS. WE HAVE STUDIED DEPARTMENT'S TEXT
CAREFULLY AND SUGGEST SEVERAL CHANGES.

2. SECOND SENTENCE, PARA (J) OF FIRST AIDE MEMOIRE
CONCERNING "EXAMINATION OF RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF TRADE
REFORM ACT ..." STATES THAT "THE UNITED STATES PLANS
TO CALL, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, FOR PRIOR CONSULTATIONS WHEN
CONTEMPLATING THE ADOPTION OF MEASURES WHICH MIGHT AFFECT
THE NORMAL FLOW OF EXPORTS FROM MEXICO TO THE UNITED
STATES." IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT JUST AFTER RABASA'S
DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN WASHINGTON
HE ANNOUNCED TO PRESS THAT USG WOULD CONSULT ON TRA
ON MATTERS THAT MIGHT ADVERSELY AFFECT MEXICO
(MEXICO 463). WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS NO QUALIFYING
"WHEREVER POSSIBLE" IN SECRETARY RABASA'S UNDERSTANDING
OF THIS COMMITMENT. WE SUGGEST THAT WE DROP QUALIFYING
PHRASE OR ELSE DROP ENTIRE SENTENCE.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 01062 042231Z

3. (A) SECOND AIDE MEMOIRE BEGINS WITH "I REFER"
WHICH WE ASSUME IS TYPO AND SHOULD READ "WE REFER" OR
SOME OTHER SUCH INTRODUCTION.

(B) WE SUGGEST DROPPING LAST PARENTHETICAL
PARAGRAPH (PARA 2) WHICH SAYS "OUR SYSTEM HAS NOT YET
BEEN IMPLEMENTED AND THUS CANNOT BE SAID AT THE PRESENT
TIME TO HAVE VIOLATED ANY PROVISIONS OF ANY INTERNATIONAL
INSTRUMENTS." WE BELIEVE THIS IS STRAINING AT A TECHNICALITY
AND WOULD BE POORLY RECEIVED. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD DROP
FIRST SIX WORDS PARAGRAPH (C) AND BEGIN SENTENCE
WITH "WE DO NOT BELIEVE..."

(C) WE QUESTION PHRASEOLOGY LAST SENTENCE OF
PARAGRAPH (F). EVEN IF VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR ARE COMPLYING
FULLY WITH OAS CHARTER, DOES NOT MEMBERSHIP IN OPEC EXCLUDE
THEM FROM GSP? (WE HOPE THERE IS NO INTENTION TO IMPLY
THAT OAS AND OPEC MEMBERSHIP FOR VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR
IS INCOMPATIBLE.)

(D) IN LAST SENTENCE PARAGRAPH (G), WE SUGGEST
ADDING THE WORD "CONSIDERED" BETWEEN "WERE" AND "IN
CONFLICT". PARAGRAPH WOULD NOW CONCLUDE: "...
ESPECIALLY BY THOSE ARTICLES THAT IT DID NOT SUPPORT
BECAUSE THEY WERE CONSIDERED IN CONFLICT WITH ITS OWN
NATIONAL INTERESTS AND WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW."
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